

# Suicide bombers storm Kano

*\*MTN, Airtel offices targetted; 2 killed*

BY ABDULSALAM  
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**C**oordinated suicide attacks on two telecommunication services provider, MTN and Airtel, in Kano early yesterday left the bombers dead and a civilian injured.

Affected are Airtel and MTN facilities that serve as switch stations cum offices both located in Bompai industrial area of Kano metropolis.

One of the suicide bombers hit the Airtel office in Kano around 8.45am, while the MTN switch office came under attack almost the same time.

It was not immediately clear how the bomber gained access into the heavily fortified Airtel headquarters which has been under protection of combat ready Joint Military Taskforce, JTF, officials over the past few months.

Spokesman for the JTF, Captain Ikediche Iweha, told Sunday Vanguard on phone that "two suicide bombers died from the attacks while a generator operator attached to the Airtel facility is recuperating in hospital".

But, Bayo Osho, the generator operator with Airtel, told reporters on his sick bed that two suicide bombers in two different vehicles attacked the Airtel facility, adding that one of the cars rammed into the building and paved the way for the second

one laden with explosives.

According to Osho, "the first car forced its way in and cleared the way for the second car laden with explosives". The victim pointed out that the driver of the second car immediately jumped out of his vehicle and engaged the security personnel and in minute "what followed was loud bang that sent me on the floor".

However unconfirmed reports had it that one of the suicide bombers was

captured in the premises of the Airtel office. JTF spokesman Iweha refused to confirm or deny the arrest.

"Yes I can confirm to you we carried a raid at Tukuntawa and want to assure you that we are on top of the situation and there is nothing to worry about", the JTF spokesman maintained.

Iweha explained that troops deployed to secure the MTN switch foiled the attack, adding that the explosion affected a car parked

close to the scene.

Security sources however confided in Sunday Vanguard that four people died as a result of the blast at the MTN switch, stressing that "the blast affected occupants of a car parked within the vicinity of the incident."

Sunday Vanguard also learnt that the Airtel facility blown up by the bomber is a switch that serves seven states in the North, while the MTN switch serves 13 states.

## ICPC warns ministers, DGs: Spend money and go to jail

BY LEKAN BILESANMI

**T**he Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission, ICPC, has ordered Ministries, Departments And Agencies (MDAs) to return all unspent balances on personnel votes to the Sub-Treasury of the Federation not later than Monday, December 31, 2012, or face the law. A release by the Commission's chairman, Mr. Ekpo Nta, also ordered the MDAs to submit the receipt and expenditure profiles of their personnel cost to the commission not later than January 31, 2013, using a template approved by the commission. To

underscore the seriousness his commission attaches to the directives, the ICPC chairman stated that "letters have been sent to the various Ministries, Departments and Agencies for strict compliance and to note that any infraction will be prosecuted." He also announced that the "Commission will commence verification for the returns made to the Sub-Treasury by February, 2013." The full text of Mr. Ekpo Nta's statement entitled,

**TREATMENT OF UNSPENT BALANCES OF 2012 PERSONNEL VOTES:**

"The Commission has carried out a pilot System Study and Review on the utilization

of the 2011 Personnel Vote of some Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). Observable lapses were highlighted and discussed with the various MDAs.

"The Commission will be carrying out another System Study and Review of the 2012 Personnel Vote to ensure total compliance with Section 16 of the Finance (Control and Management) Act, LFN, 1990 and the Financial Regulations regarding unspent balances in line with the Accountant-General of Nigeria's Circular No. TRY/A5 & B5/2011 of 20th November, 2012. "All MDAs are requested to submit the Receipt and Expenditure profiles